

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 05452 101128Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03
INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-04 CEA-01 PA-01
PRS-01 AGRE-00 IO-13 L-03 H-01 /099 W
-----101136Z 103721 /20

R 071600Z MAR 77 CORRECTED COPY FOR MRN
FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4253
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USMISSION USBERLIN UNN
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5452

C O R R E C T E D C O P Y //MRN 5452 VICE 5442//

E.O.11652: GDS
TAGS: EGE, GE, GW
SUBJECT: FRG/GDR ECONOMIC RELATIONS

REF: BONN 3881

1. WE WERE PLEASED TO HAVEREFTEL ASSESSMENT OF
GDR/FRG ECONOMIC RELATIONS WE SHARE THE VIEW
THA THESE REALTIONS HAVE A " BUSINESS-AS-USUAL"
QUALITY, TEMPERED, HOWEVER,BY AN APPRECIATION THAT
EXPANSION OF WEST GERMAN CREDIT WOULD AMOUNT TO A
SIGNAL AND A STEP REQUIRING POLICIAL WILL WHICH
MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO SUMMON IN THE CURRENT
ATMOSPHERE.

2. WE THINK, TOO, THAT GDR FOREIGN EXCHANGE
POSITION IS TIGHT, BUT ARE UNABLE TO JUDGE WHETHER
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THE GDR'S FINANCIAL POSITION IS WORSE NOW THAN IN
1976. GDR IS NOW NEARING THE APRIL-MAY LOW POINT
OF FEED GRAIN STOCKS, AND WE SPECULATE THAT THIS HAS
A REFLECTION IN THE COUNTRY'S INTERNATIONAL
FINANCIAL POSITION, WHICH COULD IMPROVE AS FEEDGRAIN IMPORTS
SLOW TOWARD SUMMER. WE DOUBT THAT THE DECISION TO
IMPOSE ROAD-USE FEES I EAST BERLIN SHOULD BE VIEWED

TO ANY SIGNIFICANT DEGREE AS AN INDEX OF HARD
CURRENTLY SCARCITY OR AVAILABILITY. WE BELIEVE,
RATHER, THAT POLITICAL SIGNIFICANCE OF THE MEASURE-
ONE OF A SERIES OF RECENT STEPS TO BRING THE TREAT-
MENT OF EAST BERLIN PHENOMENA INTO LINE WITH
PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO THE GDR- IS MORE IMPORTANT
THAN THE FINANCIAL IMPACT, WHICH WILL AMOUNT AT
MOST TO A FEW MILLION MARKS ADDITIONAL EARNINGS FOR
THE GDR.
POLANSKY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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